

VOICE FRAME NETWORK GATEKEEPER-TO-INTELLIGENT PERIPHERAL INTERFACE METHOD AND APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Telecommunications apparatus between a voice frame network gatekeeper and
intelligent peripheral such as an interactive voice response unit (IVR) is described. The
apparatus includes a voice frame network connection for coupling a gatekeeper to an
intelligent peripheral; a protocol over the connection that provides supplemental
services messaging between the gatekeeper and the intelligent peripheral, the protocol
10 conveying a request from the gatekeeper to the intelligent peripheral and a response
from the intelligent peripheral to the gatekeeper; and a command structure embedded in
such request/response protocol, the command structure including a call-transfer
request/response sequence to which the gatekeeper is responsive. The interfacing
method includes configuring the gatekeeper as a supplemental services provider (SSP)
15 under International H.450 standard; configuring an IVR as an intelligent peripheral
under International H.450 standard; first conveying requests from the gatekeeper to the
IVR over the voice frame network in accordance with a defined protocol; and second
conveying responses to the requests from the IVR to the gatekeeper over the voice
frame network in accordance with a defined protocol. The first conveying invokes a
20 call-transfer request/response sequence to which the IVR is responsive to route a given
call to a different telephone line, the number of which is provided in conjunction with
the call-transfer request/response sequence. Preferably, the protocol and the command
structure comply with International H.323 and H.450 standards.